

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ANKARA 01694 061506Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 L-03 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PM-05
NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 MCE-00 AID-05 EB-08 TRSE-00
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P 061420Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0923
INFO SECDEF WASHDC
HQ USAF WASHDC
CINCEUR

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: MASS, TU
SUBJECT: TURKISH REQUEST FOR T-38 AIRCRAFT

REF: (A) STATE 47636 (DTG 240123Z FEB 78) (NOTAL),
(B) ANKARA 1607 (DTG 021400Z MAR 78)

1. FOLLOWING INFORMATION HAS BEEN OBTAINED FROM TURKISH AIR
FORCE (TAF) HEADQUARTERS REGARDING REFTEL REQUEST FOR T-38
AIRCRAFT:

A. TAF HAS INITIATED AN IN-DEPTH STUDY TO REVERIFY THE
MINIMUM NUMBER OF AIRCRAFT REQUIRED, THE MANNER IN WHICH THEY
SHOULD BE ACQUIRED, AND OPTIMUM TIME FOR DELIVERY.

B. PENDING RESULTS OF AFOREMENTIONED STUDY, TAF CURRENTLY
BELIEVES THAT A MINIMUM OF FORTY T-38 AIRCRAFT WOULD
SATISFY TRAINING REQUIREMENTS. WITH REGARD TO TIMING OF
DELIVERY, TAF PREFERS TO HAVE T-38'S IN COUNTRY BEFORE PHASE-
OUT OF T-33 AIRCRAFT CURRENTLY IN THE TAF INVENTORY. THE
T-33 PHASEOUT COULD BE AS EARLY AS 1979, BUT PROBABLY NO
LATER THAN THE END OF CY 1980. (NOTE: PLEASE SEE REF B
REGARDING TAF PLANS FOR REPLACEMENT OF T-37C AND TF-104G

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PAGE 02 ANKARA 01694 061506Z

AIRCRAFT). DELIVERIES WILL ALSO BE DEPENDENT UPON AVAILABILITY
OF U.S. GRANT AID FUNDS, AMOUNT OF FOREIGN EXCHANGE FOR FMS
CASH PURCHASES AND AMOUNT OF FMS CREDITS MADE AVAILABLE TO
TAF FROM THE OVERALL ANNUAL ALLOCATION FOR THE TURKISH ARMED
SERVICES.

C. REGARDING NEW OR RECONDITIONED AIRCRAFT, TAF
UNDERSTANDS THAT NEW AIRCRAFT ARE NOT AVAILABLE. HOWEVER,

T-38'S IN AN "AS IS" CONDITION WHICH ARE CURRENTLY FLYING
WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE.

D. FINALLY, WITH REGARD TO BUYING OR LEASING THE T-38
AIRCRAFT, TAF GENERALLY PREFERS TO PURCHASE, BUT THE FINAL
DECISION WOULD BE DEPENDENT ON THE ACTUAL COSTS INVOLVED IN
A SALE VERSUS LEASE/LOAN AND THE LENGTH OF A LEASE/LOAN
PROGRAM IF ONE IS OFFERED. FOR EXAMPLE, TAF WOULD NOT
CONSIDER A LEASE/LOAN ARRANGEMENT FOR A PERIOD LESS THAN
7 TO 10 YEARS TO BE COST-EFFECTIVE.

2. MISSION LEARNED SUBSEQUENT TO RECEIPT OF REF A THAT
HQ USAF HAS INDICATED THAT A NUMBER OF T-38'S COULD BE MADE
AVAILABLE TO THE TURKS. CONSEQUENTLY, AND IN LINE WITH PARA
5 REF A, WE PROPOSE TO HANDLE THIS PROGRAM WITHIN THE NORMAL
JUSMMAT/TURKISH GENERAL STAFF PROCESS OF IDENTIFYING ITEMS
FOR INCLUSION IN THE FY 1979 OR LATER SECURITY ASSISTANCE
PROGRAMS.
SPIERS

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Message Attributes

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